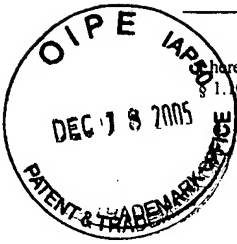


12-19-05

1657  
JFW



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10 OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

EV 746095454 US  
USPS Express Mail Label Number

December 15, 2005  
Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Sarah M. Barnett  
Sarah M. Barnett

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04853.0121-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
MITSUHASHI et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1651
	)	
Application No.: 10/519,212	)	Examiner: Herbert J. LILLING
	)	
371(c) Date: December 27, 2004	)	Confirmation No.: 7322
	)	
I.A. Filing Date: June 27, 2003	)	
	)	
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING	)	
LACTONE	)	

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Applicants now respond to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2005.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendments section at page 8 of this paper

**Response to Restriction Requirement** begins on page 8 of this paper.